

What is claimed is:

1. A decorative cover for a flower pot or potted plant, the decorative cover comprising:

a base capable of being flattened and unflattened, the base having an open upper end, a lower end, an inner peripheral surface, a retaining space for receiving at least a portion of the flower pot or potted plant, and a plurality of gathered portions spatially disposed along a portion of the inner peripheral surface of the base whereby an outer peripheral surface of the base is provided with a plurality of panels extending from the open upper end of the base to the lower end thereof, the gathered portions selected from the group consisting of pleats, folds, fins, flaps, crimps and combinations thereof;

a skirt extending from the open upper end of the base and having an outer edge; and

wherein the decorative cover is formed from a sheet of material having an upper surface, a lower surface and an outer periphery, the sheet of material having forming indicia thereon and a bonding material disposed thereon substantially adjacent the forming indicia, the forming indicia being selected from the group consisting of score lines, printed indicia, embossed indicia, creases, textures, a lack of

pattern that is present on other portions of the sheet of material, and combinations thereof, the sheet of material formed into the decorative cover by gathering portions of the sheet of material along the forming indicia to provide the plurality of gathered portions and bondingly connecting each of the plurality of gathered portions of the decorative cover with the bonding material, thereby forming the sheet of material into the decorative cover without use of a mold, such as a flower pot or potted plant.

2. The decorative cover of claim 1 wherein the sheet of material is selected from the group consisting of paper, foil, polymeric film, fabric, burlap and combinations and laminates thereof.

3. The decorative cover of claim 1 wherein the sheet of material has a thickness in a range of from about 0.1 mil to about 30 mil.

4. The decorative cover of claim 1 wherein the outer edge of the skirt has a decorative design selected from the group consisting of a scalloped design, a serrated design, a sinusoidal design, an undulating design and combinations thereof.

5. The decorative cover of claim 1 wherein the base is substantially shape-sustaining.

6. A decorative cover for a flower pot or potted plant, the decorative cover comprising:

a base capable of being flattened and unflattened, the base having an open upper end, a lower end, an inner peripheral surface, a retaining space for receiving at least a portion of the flower pot or potted plant, and a plurality of crimped portions disposed along a portion of the inner peripheral surface and an outer peripheral surface of the base whereby the outer peripheral surface of the base is provided with a plurality of unconnected folds;

a skirt extending from the open upper end of the base and having an outer edge; and

wherein the decorative cover is formed from a sheet of material having an upper surface, a lower surface and an outer periphery, the sheet of material having forming indicia thereon and a bonding material disposed thereon substantially adjacent the forming indicia, the forming indicia being selected from the group consisting of score lines, printed indicia, embossed indicia, creases, textures, a lack of pattern that is present on other portions of the sheet of material,

and combinations thereof, the sheet of material formed into the decorative cover by gathering portions of the sheet of material along the forming indicia to provide the plurality of crimped portions and bondingly connecting each of the plurality of crimped portions of the decorative cover with the bonding material, thereby forming the sheet of material into the decorative cover without use of a mold, such as a flower pot or potted plant.

7. The decorative cover of claim 6 wherein the sheet of material is selected from the group of materials consisting of paper, foil, polymeric film, fabric, burlap and combinations or laminates thereof.

8. The decorative cover of claim 6 wherein the sheet of material has a thickness in a range of from about 0.1 mil to about 30 mil.

9. The decorative cover of claim 6 wherein the outer edge of the skirt has a decorative design selected from the group consisting of a scalloped design, a serrated design, a sinusoidal design, an undulating design and combinations thereof.

10. The decorative cover of claim 6 wherein the base is substantially shape-sustaining.

11. A method of forming a decorative cover for a flower pot or potted plant, comprising the steps of:

providing a sheet of material having an upper surface, a lower surface and an outer periphery, the sheet of material having forming indicia thereon, the sheet of material having a bonding material disposed thereon substantially adjacent the forming indicia, the forming indicia being selected from the group consisting of score lines, printed indicia, embossed indicia, creases, textures, a lack of pattern that is present on other portions of the sheet of material, and combinations thereof;

providing a flower pot or potted plant having an outer peripheral surface; gathering portions of the sheet of material along the forming indicia to form a plurality of gathered portions and simultaneously bondingly connecting each of the plurality of gathered portions, thereby forming a decorative cover comprising a base and a skirt, the base having an open upper end, a lower end, an inner peripheral surface, and a retaining space for receiving at least a portion of the flower pot or potted plant and the skirt extending from the open

upper end of the base and having an outer edge, the plurality of gathered portions spatially disposed along a portion of the inner peripheral surface of the base wherein the gathered portions are selected from the group consisting of pleats, folds, fins, flaps, crimps and combinations thereof, an outer peripheral surface of the base having a plurality of panels extending from the open upper end of the base to the lower end of the base; and

disposing the flower pot or potted plant in the retaining space of the base after the decorative cover is formed, the outer peripheral surface of the flower pot or potted plant being substantially surrounded and encompassed by the decorative cover.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein, in the step of providing a sheet of material, the sheet of material is further defined as being selected from the group consisting of paper, foil, polymeric film, fabric, burlap and combinations or laminates thereof.

13. The method of claim 11 wherein, in the step of providing a sheet of material, the sheet of material is further defined as having a thickness in a range of from about 0.1 mil to about 30 mil.

14. The method of claim 11 wherein, in the step of gathering portions of the sheet of material along the forming indicia to provide the decorative cover, the outer edge of the skirt has a decorative design selected from the group consisting of a scalloped design, a serrated design, a sinusoidal design, an undulating design and combinations thereof.

15. The method of claim 11 wherein, in the step of gathering portions of the sheet of material along the forming indicia to provide the decorative cover, the base is substantially shape-sustaining.

16. A method of forming a decorative cover for a flower pot or potted plant, comprising the steps of:

providing a sheet of material having an upper surface, a lower surface and an outer periphery, the sheet of material having forming indicia thereon, the sheet of material having a bonding material disposed thereon substantially adjacent the forming indicia, the forming indicia being selected from the group consisting of score lines, printed indicia, embossed indicia, creases, textures, a lack of pattern that is present on other portions of the sheet of material, and combinations thereof;

providing a flower pot or potted plant having an outer peripheral surface;

gathering portions of the sheet of material along the forming indicia to form a plurality of crimped portions and simultaneously bondingly connecting each of the plurality of crimped portions, thereby forming a decorative cover comprising a base and a skirt, the base having an open upper end, a lower end, an outer peripheral surface, an inner peripheral surface, and a retaining space for receiving at least a portion of the flower pot or potted plant and the skirt extending from the open upper end of the base and having an outer edge, the plurality of crimped portions disposed along a portion of the inner peripheral surface and the outer peripheral surface of the base; and

disposing the flower pot or potted plant in the retaining space of the base after the decorative cover is formed, the outer peripheral surface of the flower pot or potted plant being substantially surrounded and encompassed by the decorative cover.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein, in the step of providing a sheet of material, the sheet of material is further defined as being selected from the group consisting of paper, foil, polymeric film, fabric, burlap and combinations or laminates thereof.



18. The method of claim 16 wherein in the step of providing a sheet of material, the sheet of material is further defined as having a thickness in a range of from about 0.1 mil to about 30 mil.

19. The method of claim 16 wherein, in the step of gathering portions of the sheet of material along the forming indicia to provide the decorative cover, the outer edge of the skirt has a decorative design selected from the group consisting of a scalloped design, a serrated design, a sinusoidal design, an undulating design and combinations thereof.

20. The method of claim 16 wherein, in the step of gathering portions of the sheet of material along the forming indicia to provide the decorative cover, the base is substantially shape-sustaining.

21. A decorative cover for a flower pot or potted plant, the decorative cover comprising:

a base capable of being flattened and unflattened, the base having an open upper end, a lower end, an inner peripheral surface, a retaining space for receiving at least a portion of the flower pot or potted plant, and a plurality of gathered portions spatially disposed along a portion of the inner peripheral surface of the base whereby

an outer peripheral surface of the base is provided with a plurality of panels extending from the open upper end of the base to the lower end thereof, the gathered portions selected from the group consisting of pleats, folds, fins, flaps, crimps and combinations thereof;

a skirt extending from the open upper end of the base and having an outer edge; and

wherein the decorative cover is formed from a sheet of material having an upper surface, a lower surface and an outer periphery, the sheet of material having forming indicia thereon, the forming indicia being selected from the group consisting of score lines, printed indicia, embossed indicia, creases, textures, a lack of pattern that is present on other portions of the sheet of material, and combinations thereof, the sheet of material formed into the decorative cover by gathering portions of the sheet of material along the forming indicia, thereby forming the sheet of material into the decorative cover without use of a mold, such as a flower pot or potted plant.

22. The decorative cover of claim 21 wherein the sheet of material is selected from the group consisting of paper, foil, polymeric film, fabric, burlap and combinations and laminates thereof.

23. The decorative cover of claim 21 wherein the sheet of material has a thickness in a range of from about 0.1 mil to about 30 mil.

24. The decorative cover of claim 21 wherein the outer edge of the skirt has a decorative design selected from the group consisting of a scalloped design, a serrated design, a sinusoidal design, an undulating design and combinations thereof.

25. The decorative cover of claim 21 wherein the base is substantially shape-sustaining.

26. A method of forming a decorative cover for a flower pot or potted plant, comprising the steps of:

providing a sheet of material having an upper surface, a lower surface and an outer periphery, the sheet of material having forming indicia thereon, the forming indicia being selected from the group consisting of score lines, printed indicia, embossed indicia, creases,

textures, a lack of pattern that is present on other portions of the sheet of material, and combinations thereof;

providing a flower pot or potted plant having an outer peripheral surface;

gathering portions of the sheet of material along the forming indicia to form a plurality of gathered portions, thereby forming a decorative cover comprising a base and a skirt, the base having an open upper end, a lower end, an inner peripheral surface, and a retaining space for receiving at least a portion of the flower pot or potted plant and the skirt extending from the open upper end of the base and having an outer edge, the plurality of gathered portions spatially disposed along a portion of the inner peripheral surface of the base wherein the gathered portions are selected from the group consisting of pleats, folds, fins, flaps, crimps and combinations thereof, an outer peripheral surface of the base having a plurality of panels extending from the open upper end of the base to the lower end thereof; and

disposing the flower pot or potted plant in the retaining space of the base after the decorative cover is formed, the outer peripheral surface of the flower pot or potted plant being substantially surrounded and encompassed by the decorative cover.

27. The method of claim 26 wherein, in the step of providing a sheet of material, the sheet of material is further defined as being selected from the group consisting of paper, foil, polymeric film, fabric, burlap and combinations or laminates thereof.

28. The method of claim 26 wherein in the step of providing a sheet of material, the sheet of material is further defined as having a thickness in a range of from about 0.1 mil to about 30 mil.

29. The method of claim 26 wherein, in the step of gathering portions of the sheet of material along the forming indicia to provide the decorative cover, the outer edge of the skirt has a decorative design selected from the group consisting of a scalloped design, a serrated design, a sinusoidal design, an undulating design and combinations thereof.

30. The method of claim 26 wherein, in the step of gathering portions of the sheet of material along the forming indicia to provide the decorative cover, the base is substantially shape-sustaining.